

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 314

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PGOV, SF
SUBJECT: NATIONAL PARTY WHIP ENVISIONS INTEGRATION WITH
COLOREDS AND INDIANS, EQUALITY FOR BLACKS

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: IN A LUNCHEON MEETING WITH THE
POLITICAL COUNSELOR, C.S. KOTZE, CHIEF WHIP OF THE NATIONAL
PARTY, DESCRIBED HIS VISION OF THE FUTURE DIRECTION OF SOUTH
AFRICAN SOCIETY. KOTZE REPRESENTS A LARGELY AFRIKANER MIDDLE
AND LOWER-MIDDLE CLASS CONSTITUENCY NEAR CAPE TOWN. IN THE
PAST HE HAS NOT GENERALLY BEEN THOUGHT OF AS A VERLIGTE
(LIBERAL), BUT HIS VIEWS AS EXPRESSED TO THE POLITICAL
COUNSELOR ACCORD WITH THE BASIC VERLIGTE PHILOSOPHY WHICH
FORESEES ON THE ONE HAND, POWER-SHARING AND EVEN GRADUAL SOCIAL
INTEGRATION WITH COLOREDS AND INDIANS, AND ON THE OTHER,
EQUALITY AND "NON-DISCRIMINATION" FOR BLACKS BUT NO SHARING
OF POLITICAL POWER. WE BELIEVE KOTZE'S VIEWS ARE OF
PARTICULAR INTEREST, BECAUSE HE IS AN OLD-LINE
NAT (10 YEARS IN THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND 20 YEARS IN
PARLIAMENT), AND HIS POSITION GIVES HIM A FAIRLY GOOD SENSE OF
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THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF PARTY POLICY. END INTRODUCTION
AND SUMMARY.

2. KOTZE WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF A "NEW
DISPENSATION" FOR COLOREDS AND INDIANS THAT WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY
ALTER THE STRUCTURE, THE IMAGE AND DYNAMICS OF SOUTH AFRICAN
SOCIETY. HE SAID THE NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION WOULD

CONTINUE TO BE THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATION WITH THE COLORED AND INDIAN COMMUNITIES OVER THE NEXT YEAR. ALTERATIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE IN THE DRAFT, HE SAID, TO VISIBLY REFLECT THE MEANINGFUL CHANGES IN THE SYSTEM INTENDED. KOTZE DISMISSED AS POLITICAL RHETORIC STATEMENTS BY NATIONAL PARTY LEADERS DURING LAST YEAR'S NAT PARTY CONGRESSES AND THE NOVEMBER ELECTION CAMPAIGN WHICH PORTRAYED THE PROPOSED JOINT CABINET COUNCIL AS MERELY A "TALK SHOP". HE DID NOT SEE ANY POLITICAL CONSTRAINTS ON NOW MOVING AHEAD TO MAKE THE PROPOSAL ATTRACTIVE TO THE TWO OTHER COMMUNITIES. NOT EVERY ONE IN THE PARTY CAUCUS, HE SAID, AGREED WITH THIS APPROACH, BUT THE PARTY CONGRESSES HAVE ALREADY APPROVED THE DRAFT AND THE LEADERSHIP IS BEHIND IT. IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION WHETHER THE NEW CONSTITUTION WOULD MEAN "POWER-SHARING," KOTZE AT FIRST REPLIED "CALL IT WHAT YOU LIKE," BUT LATER HE ASSERTED THAT THE EFFECT WOULD DEFINITELY BE POWER-SHARING.

3. THE 12 MINISTERS, 6 WHITE AND 6 NON-WHITE, IN THE JOINT CABINET COUNCIL, HE SAID, WOULD BE APPOINTED TO HEAD UP THE VARIOUS NATIONAL MINISTRIES. THE STATE PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE TO APPOINT SOME INDIANS AND COLOREDS AS NATIONAL MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS. THE BUREAUCRACIES OF ALL THE NATIONAL MINISTRIES, HE PREDICTED, WOULD ALSO BE INTEGRATED; COLORED AND INDIAN AMBASSADORS, FOR EXAMPLE, WOULD PROBABLY BE ON THE SCENE SOONER THAN GENERALLY

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EXPECTED. NATIONAL MILITARY SERVICE WOULD LIKEWISE BE APPLIED EQUALLY TO COLOREDS AND INDIANS, ACCORDING TO KOTZE, AND MOST UNITS WOULD BE INTEGRATED. HE REFERRED TO A STORY IN THE PRESS FEB. 16 ABOUT A TRAINING CLASS FOR NAVAL PETTY OFFICERS WHICH INCLUDED COLOREDS AND INDIANS. UNIVERSITIES, HE SAID, WOULD ALSO BE OPEN TO ALL THREE RACES. HE NOTED THAT STELLENBOSCH, THE PREEMINENT AFRIKANER UNIVERSITY, BEGINNING THIS YEAR, HAD ACCEPTED 30 OR 40 COLOREDS AND INDIANS (AS WELL AS SOME BLACKS). HE ADMITTED THIS WAS OUT OF A TOTAL ENROLLMENT OF ABOUT 10,000 BUT ASSERTED IT WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING. (LESS NOTABLE BUT STILL SIGNIFICANT IN THIS CONTEXT IS THE INCREASE IN COLORED AND INDIAN ENROLLMENT AT WITS UNIVERSITY FROM 600 LAST YEAR TO ABOUT 1000 THIS YEAR IN ADDITION TO AN APPARENTLY LARGE INCREASE IN BLACK ENROLLMENT.) HE ALSO SAID THERE WAS A BUDDING EFFORT TO INCREASE CONTACT BETWEEN THE WHITE AND COLORED DUTCH REFORM CHURCHES ON THE CONGREGATIONAL LEVEL.

4. IN REGARD TO BLACKS, KOTZE SAW THE GOAL AS EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION BUT TOTALLY SEPARATE POLITICAL SYSTEMS. THE NATIONAL PARTY, HE SAID, IN THE FIFTIES RECOGNIZED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO END THE COLONIAL

SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA IN WHICH A MINORITY DOMINATED
A MAJORITY. THE TROUBLE WAS, HE ASSERTED, THAT THE
PARTY HAD MOVED TOO SLOWLY TO IMPLEMENT SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT
AND END DISCRIMINATION. THIS WAS THE FAULT OF THE
PREVIOUS GENERATION. "WE NOW HAVE TO MAKE UP FOR OUR
FAILURE TO MOVE AHEAD FASTER," BUT, HE ASSERTED, IT IS
NECESSARY TO BEGIN WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION AS IT IS
AND WORK FROM THERE. THE PARTY, HE SAID, COULD NOT GET
TOO FAR IN FRONT OF ITS ELECTORATE. "IDEAS ARE WORTHLESS,"
HE SAID, "IF YOU DO NOT HAVE POWER." SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT,
HE BELIEVED, WAS THE ONLY SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO WHITES
BUT IT MUST BE MADE VIABLE AND REALISTIC. AS AN EXAMPLE
OF THE INTENTION TO BRING ABOUT EQUALITY FOR BLACKS, KOTZE
POINTED TO THE DECISION ANNOUNCED FEB. 16 THAT BLACK
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TEACHING STAFF AT THE NON-WHITE UNIVERSITIES WOULD RECEIVE
THE SAME PAY AS WHITE STAFF AT THOSE INSTITUTIONS.
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